GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7889
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2002
EFFECT OF GUJARAT VIOLENCE ON EXPORT OF DIAMONDS
PATY RIPPLE KYNDIAH

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is apprehension that exports of diamonds would suffer a major setback due to riots which broke out in several parts of Gujarat during the last two months;

(b) if so, the total loss suffered by the exporters and mandays lost due to the disturbances; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to put the exports of diamonds on the track?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) to (c) No, Sir. As per the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC), an autonomous representative body of trade sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Surat (which accounts for more than 50% Diamond production in Gujarat State) has not been affected. In Ahemdabad, due to continued disturbances in other parts of cities, it is estimated that diamond production may be less by around 25%. Even though all diamond factories are understood to be working. There is no significant adverse effect in other cities like Bhavnagar and Palampur in Gujarat. However the export of cut and polished diamonds have been showing a healthy trend. The Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council is keeping a close watch on the situation of Gujarat in the context of Diamond Industry.